

THE VOID



GENRE: ACTION DRAMA

SYNOPSIS: The true story of the extraordinary feat of courage, human endurance and adventure of two young mountaineers free-climbing in the Siula Grande.

Joe Simpson and Simon Yates succeeded in climbing the Siula Grande in the Peruvian Andes. Their descent, however, has become one of the most fascinating and controversial stories of all time. A snowstorm hits them on the way down and when Joe breaks his leg, Simon has no choice but to lower him down the mountain. Joe is in unbelievable pain but it works, until a storm finally engulfs them. Then, in the blinding snow, Simon unwittingly lowers Joe straight over a cliff face. Simon hangs onto the rope for an hour, with his strength ebbing away. Knowing that it will kill his friend, but faced with no alternative, he cuts the rope.

Joe falls two hundred feet into a crevasse. Unbelievably, he lives. In his determination to survive, he is pushed to the very edge of reason and physical suffering.

Based on the book by Joe Simpson, *The Void* is so much more than the story of a man crawling down a mountain. Joe's physical peril and Simon's moral and emotional conflict confront what it is to be in existence. Beyond all vanity and thought there is only the naked will.

PRODUCERS: Martin Brown (*Moulin Rouge!*, *Romeo & Juliet*) and Mark Crowdy (*Saving Grace*)

SCRIPT: John Collee (*Master & Commander*) (4th draft).

LOCATIONS: Peru, Switzerland, Italy, UK